## United States Embassy, Dhaka, Bangladesh Security Message for U.S. Citizens

## **Demonstrations Expected December 11 - 13**

December 10, 2017

According to local sources, several organizations have announced plans to hold demonstrations over the next several days in Dhaka and elsewhere in Bangladesh in reaction to the recent announcement that the United States recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and plans to relocate the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Islami Andolon has announced plans to demonstrate on Monday, December 11, and the Jatiya Party has said it will do the same on Tuesday, December 12. In addition, Hefazat-e-Islam has called for demonstrations on Wednesday, December 13. It is undetermined at this time, where these demonstrations may take place or at what specific times. However, historically marches and demonstrations conclude at the Gulshan II traffic circle and are not allowed to enter the diplomatic enclave. The U.S. Embassy in Dhaka encourages U.S. citizens to exercise caution as demonstrations may continue to occur in the future.

A protest may or may not affect local transportation services, schools, shopping malls, and infrastructure. Extra caution and vigilance should be taken to avoid large crowds and protests. As always, be aware of your surroundings at all times. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

## For further information:

- See the <u>State Department's travel website</u> for the <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, <u>Travel</u> Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information.
- Enroll in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> (<u>STEP</u>) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the <u>U.S. Embassy in Dhaka</u>, Bangladesh, located at Madani Avenue, Baridhara, Dhaka, Bangladesh 1212, at (88) (02) 5566-2000, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. Weekends and After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is (88) (02) 5566-2000 and press "0" and ask for the duty officer.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.

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